

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-3, 5 and 11 and add new Claims 14-18:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Withdrawn) A compound of the formula (I) according to Claim 1

wherein

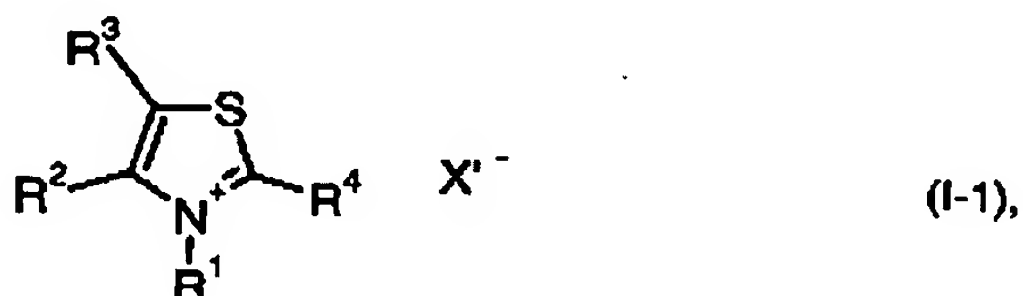
$R^1$  represents methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, or isopropyl,

$R^2$  represents methyl or ethyl, and

$X^-$  represents tetrafluoroborate.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Withdrawn) A process for the preparation of compounds of formula (I-1)

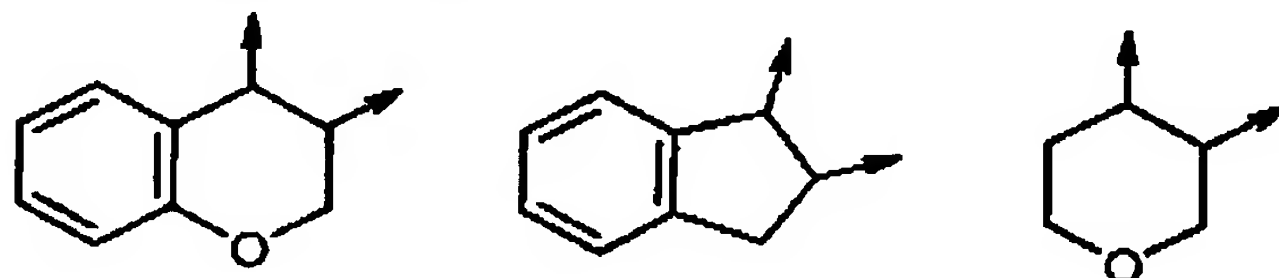


in which

- $R^1$  represents methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, hydroxyl, methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl, phenylsulfonyl, p-methylphenylsulfonyl, or benzyl that is optionally substituted by halogen, nitro,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,
- $R^2$  represents  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, hydroxyl, methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl, phenylsulfonyl, p-methylphenylsulfonyl, phenyl that is optionally substituted by halogen,  $NO_2$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylsulfonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkoxycarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylcarbonyloxy, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy, benzyl that is optionally substituted by halogen, nitro,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy, or pyrrolyl, thienyl, naphthyl, or benzothiophenyl, each of which is optionally substituted by halogen,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkyl,
- $R^3$  represents hydrogen, methyl, or ethyl, or

Mo6678

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  together represent  $-(CH_2)_n-$  that is optionally substituted by halogen,  $NO_2$ , carboxyl, carbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkoxy or the optionally halogen-,  $NO_2$ -,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl-,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkyl-,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy-, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkoxy-substituted groups having the formulas



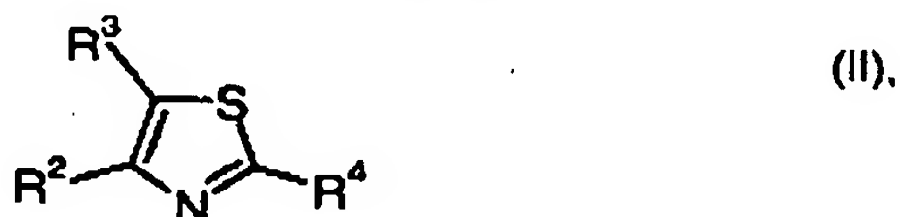
where the arrows mark the points of linkage to the thiazole ring, and  $n$  represents 3, 4 or 5,

$R^4$  represents bromine or chlorine, and

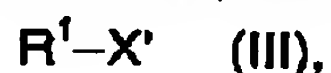
$X'^{-}$  represents chloride, bromide, iodide, hydrogen sulfate,  $\frac{1}{2}$  equivalent of sulfate, sulfate,  $SbCl_6^-$ , methanesulfonate, trifluoromethanesulfonate, or p-toluenesulfonate,

comprising

(a) reacting compounds of the formula (II)



in which  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  have the meanings indicated for formula (I-1), with alkylating reagents of the formula (III)



in which

$R^1$  has the meaning indicated for formula (I-1), and

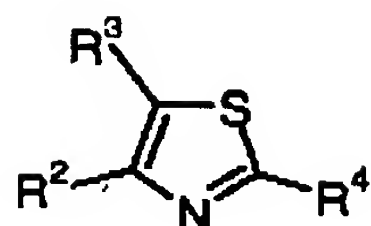
$X'$  represents chlorine, bromine, iodine, sulfoxy,  $\frac{1}{2}$  equivalent of sulfate, sulfate,  $SbCl_6^-$ , methylsulfonyloxy, trifluorosulfonyloxy or toluenesulfonyloxy,

in the presence of a diluent, or

(b) reacting compounds of the formula (II)

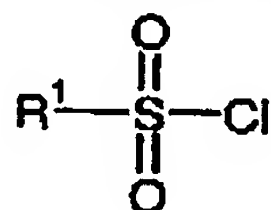
Mo6678

- 3 -



(II),

in which  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  have the meanings indicated for formula (I-1),  
with sulfonating reagents of the formula (VII)



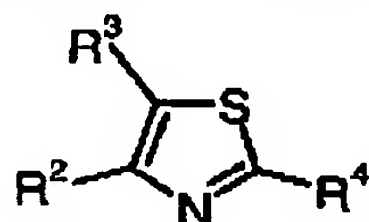
(VII),

in which

$R^1$  has the meaning indicated for formula (I-1),

in the presence of a diluent, or

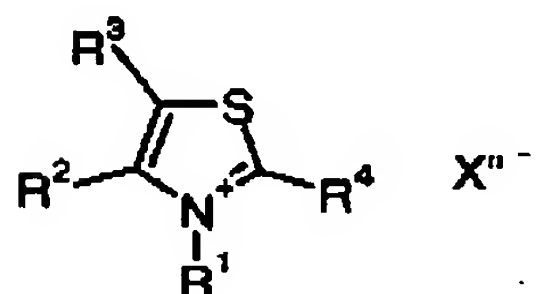
(c) oxidizing compounds of the formula (II)



(II),

in which  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  have the meanings indicated for formula (I-1),  
using hydrogen peroxide, peracids, or NaOCl.

7. (Withdrawn) A process for the preparation of compounds of formula  
(I-2)



(I-2),

in which

$R^1$  represents methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, hydroxyl, methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl, phenylsulfonyl, p-methylphenylsulfonyl, or benzyl that is optionally substituted by halogen, nitro,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,

$R^2$  represents  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, hydroxyl, methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl, phenylsulfonyl, p-methylphenylsulfonyl, phenyl that is optionally substituted by halogen,  $NO_2$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylsulfonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -

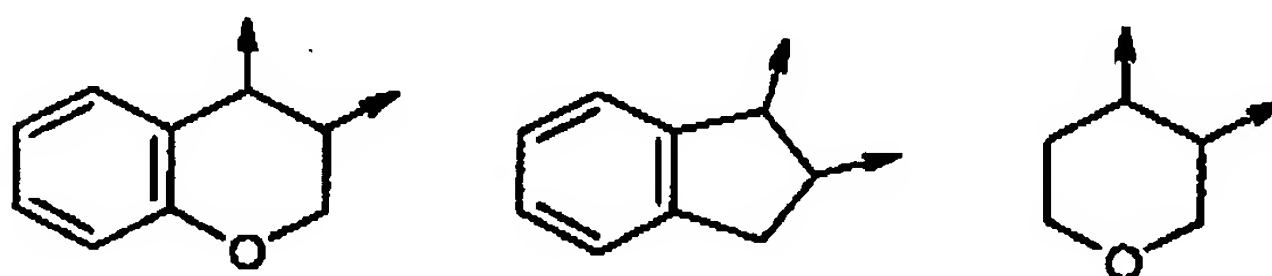
Mo6678

- 4 -

alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogeno-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyloxy, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy, benzyl that is optionally substituted by halogen, nitro, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, or pyrrolyl, thienyl, naphthyl, or benzothiophenyl, each of which is optionally substituted by halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkyl,

R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen, methyl, or ethyl, or

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> together represent -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- that is optionally substituted by halogen, NO<sub>2</sub>, carboxyl, carbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkoxy or the optionally halogen-, NO<sub>2</sub>-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkyl-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkoxy-substituted groups having the formulas

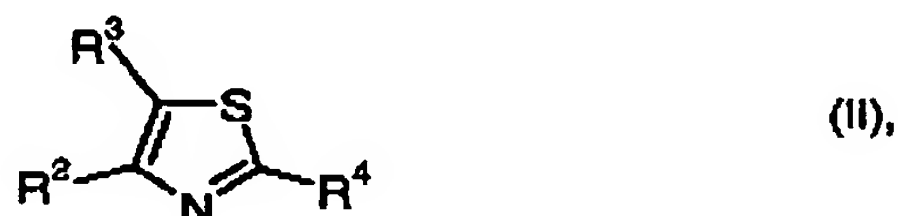


where the arrows mark the points of linkage to the thiazole ring, and n represents 3, 4 or 5,

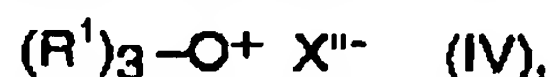
R<sup>4</sup> represents bromine or chlorine, and

X<sup>''-</sup> represents tetrafluoroborate, tetraphenylborate, or hexafluorophosphate, comprising

(a) reacting compounds of the formula (II)

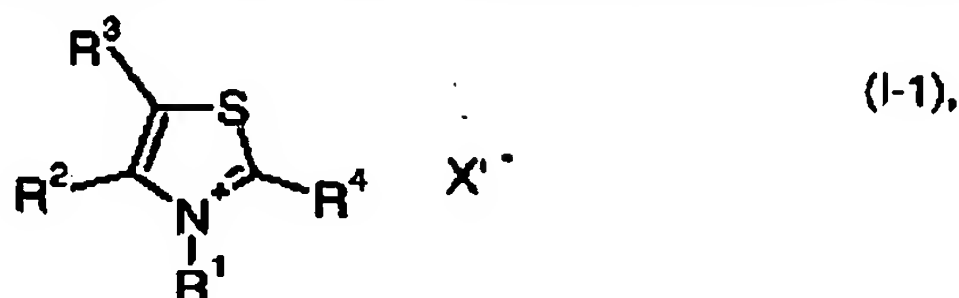


in which R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> have the meanings indicated for formula (I-2), with alkylating reagents of the formula (IV)



in which R<sup>1</sup> and X<sup>''-</sup> have the meanings indicated for formula (I-2), in the presence of a diluent, or

- (b) exchanging the anion  $X'^{-}$  of compounds of the formula (I-1)



in which

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ , and  $R^4$  have the meanings indicated for formula (I-2), and  $X'$  represents chlorine, bromine, iodine, sulfoxy,  $\frac{1}{2}$  equivalent of sulfate, sulfate,  $SbCl_6^-$ , methylsulfonyloxy, trifluorosulfonyloxy or toluenesulfonyloxy,

with tetrafluoroboric acid, tetraphenylboric acid, or hexafluorophosphoric acid or an anion exchanger loaded with tetrafluoroboric acid, tetraphenylboric acid, or hexafluorophosphoric acid so that  $X'^{-}$  has the meaning indicated for formula (I-2).

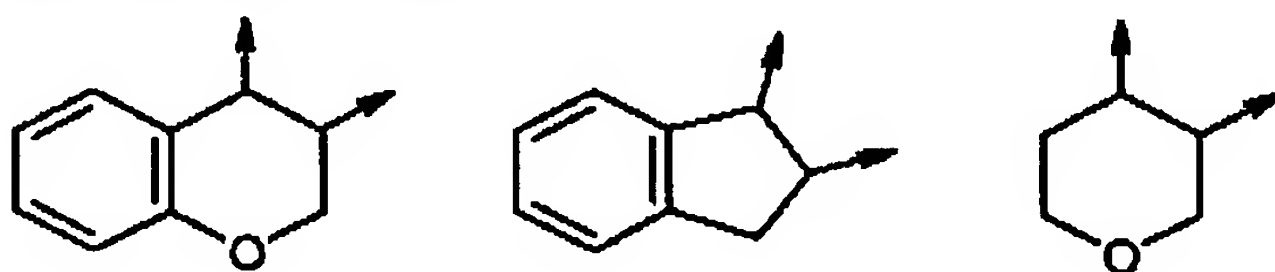
8. (Original) A condensation agent comprising a compound according to Claim 1.
9. (Original) A peptide coupling reagent comprising a condensation agent according to Claim 8.
10. (Withdrawn) A method comprising synthesizing peptides with a condensation agent wherein the condensation agent is a compound according to Claim 1.
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Withdrawn) A process for the preparation of compounds of the formula (II)



in which

$R^2$  represents  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, hydroxyl, methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl, phenylsulfonyl, p-methylphenylsulfonyl, phenyl that is optionally substituted by halogen,  $NO_2$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylsulfonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -

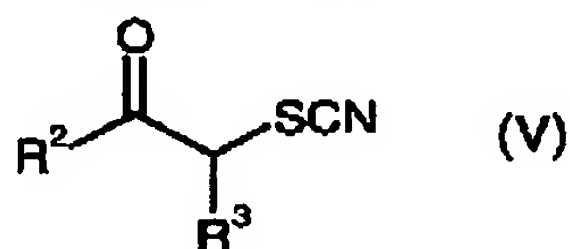
alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogeno-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyloxy, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy, benzyl that is optionally substituted by halogen, nitro, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, or pyrrolyl, thienyl, naphthyl, or benzothiophenyl, each of which is optionally substituted by halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkyl, R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen, methyl, or ethyl, or R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> together represent -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>- that is optionally substituted by halogen, NO<sub>2</sub>, carboxyl, carbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkoxy or the optionally halogen-, NO<sub>2</sub>-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkyl-, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-halogenoalkoxy-substituted groups having the formulas



where the arrows mark the points of linkage to the thiazole ring, and n represents 3, 4 or 5, and

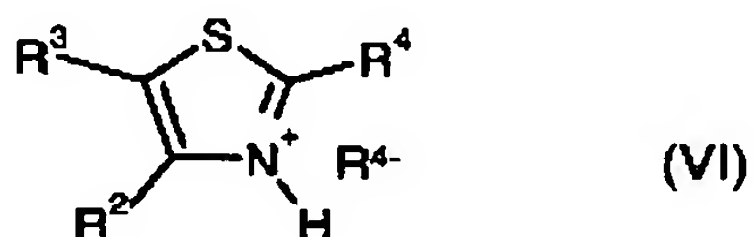
R<sup>4</sup> represents bromine or chlorine, comprising

(1) reacting compounds of the formula (V)



in which

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> have one of the meanings indicated for formula (II), with hydrogen bromide or hydrogen chloride in the presence of a diluent to form a compound of the formula (VI)



in which  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  have one of the meanings indicated for formula (II)  
and  $R^4$  is bromide or chloride, and

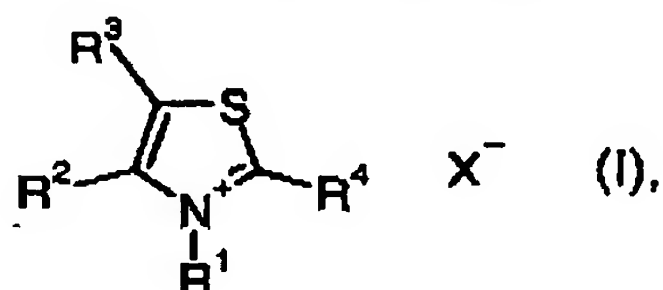
- (2) releasing the hydrogen bromide or hydrogen chloride from the compound of the formula (VI).

13. (Withdrawn) A compound of the formula (II-1)



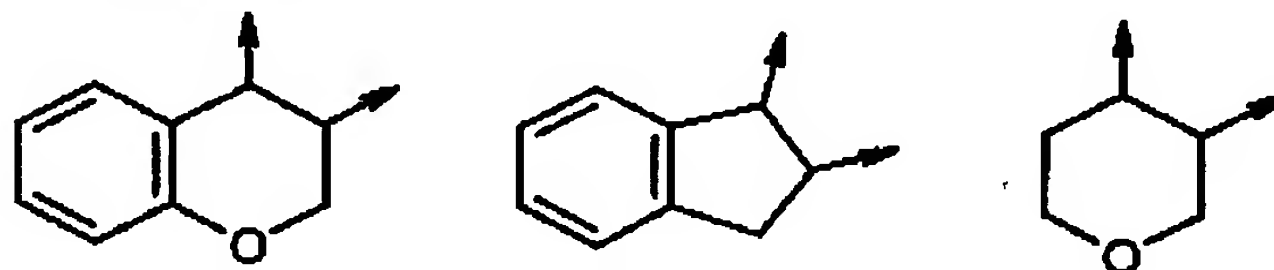
in which n represents 1 or 2.

14. (New) A compound of the formula (I)



in which

$R^1$  represents methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, hydroxyl, methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl, phenylsulfonyl, p-methylphenylsulfonyl, or benzyl that is optionally substituted by halogen, nitro,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  
 $R^2$  and  $R^3$  together represent  $-(CH_2)_n-$  that is optionally substituted by halogen,  $NO_2$ , carboxyl, carbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkoxy or the optionally halogen-,  $NO_2$ -,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl-,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkyl-,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy-, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkoxy-substituted groups having the formulas



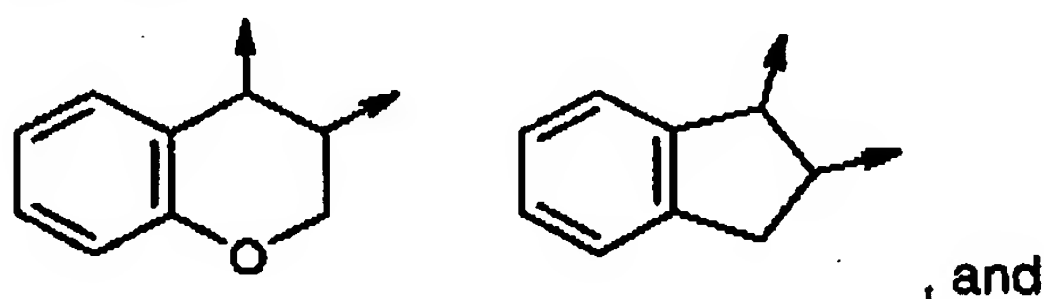
where the arrows mark the points of linkage to the thiazole ring, and

n represents 3, 4 or 5,

$R^4$  represents bromine or chlorine, and

$X^-$  represents chloride, bromide, iodide, hydrogen sulfate,  $\frac{1}{2}$  equivalent of sulfate, sulfite, hexachloroantimonate, methanesulfonate, trifluoromethanesulfonate, p-toluenesulfonate, tetrafluoroborate, tetraphenylborate, or hexafluorophosphate.

15. (New) A compound of the formula (I) according to Claim 14, wherein  $R^1$  represents methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, hydroxyl, methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl, or benzyl that is optionally substituted by fluorine and/or chlorine, methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, trifluoromethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, or n- or i-propoxy,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  together represent  $-(CH_2)_n-$  substituted by fluorine and/or chlorine, methyl, ethyl, trifluoromethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, or carbonyl or the groups having the formulas



$n$  represents 3 or 4,

$R^4$  represents bromine, and

$X^-$  represents bromide,  $\frac{1}{2}$  equivalent of sulfate, sulfite,  $SbCl_6^-$ , mesylate, triflate, tosylate, tetrafluoroborate, tetraphenylborate, or hexafluorophosphate.

16. (New) A compound of the formula (I) according to Claim 14, wherein  $R^1$  represents methyl, ethyl, methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl, or benzyl that is optionally

substituted by fluorine and/or chlorine,

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  together represent  $-(CH_2)_n-$  that is optionally substituted by fluorine and/or chlorine,

methyl, ethyl, or carbonyl, and

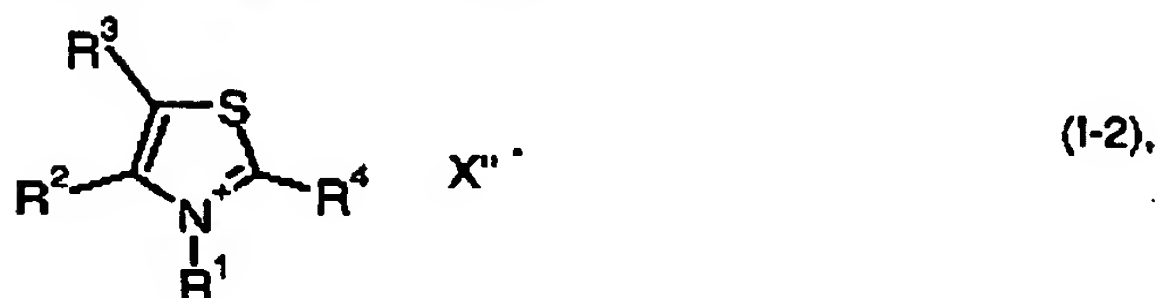
$X^-$  represents bromide,  $\frac{1}{2}$  equivalent of sulfate, sulfite, or tetrafluoroborate.

17. (New) A compound of the formula (I) according to Claim 14, wherein

$R^4$  represents bromine.

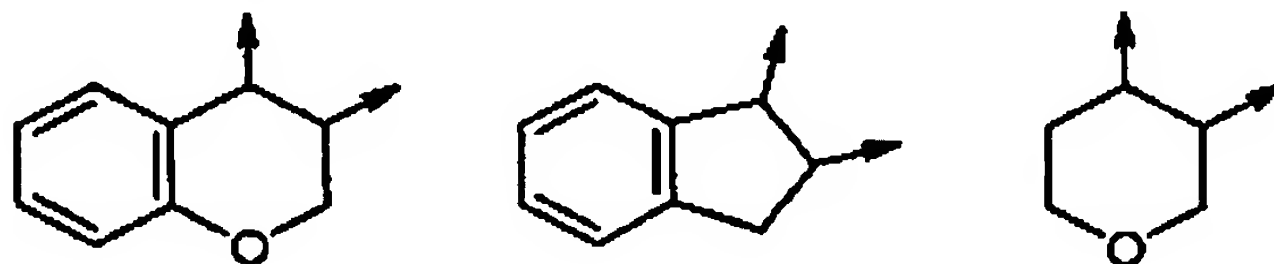


18. (New) A compound of the formula (I-2)



in which

$R^1$  represents methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, hydroxyl, methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl, phenylsulfonyl, p-methylphenylsulfonyl, or benzyl that is optionally substituted by halogen, nitro,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  together represent  $-(CH_2)_n-$  that is optionally substituted by halogen,  $NO_2$ , carboxyl, carbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkoxy or the optionally halogen-,  $NO_2$ -,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl-,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkyl-,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy-, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -halogenoalkoxy-substituted groups having the formulas



where the arrows mark the points of linkage to the thiazole ring, and  $n$  represents 3, 4 or 5,

$R^4$  represents bromine or chlorine, and

$X^{n-}$  represents tetrafluoroborate, tetraphenylborate, or hexafluorophosphate.